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CONTROL NO. Z-18302/85

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DISSEMINATION CONTROL ABBREVIATIONS

NOFORN-	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
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Attachment to

Z-18302/85

NPIC/IEG/SANND

10 JANUARY 1985

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PROBABLE COMMUNICATIONS ANTENNA IDENTIFIED ON
SOVIET EASTERN THEATER TRAINBORNE COMMAND POST
ULAN-UDE, USSR (SWN)

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1. SIGNIFICANCE: A PROBABLE MAST ANTENNA HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED ON THE SOVIET FAR EAST THEATER TRAINBORNE COMMAND POST (TBCP) [REDACTED] THE TBCP WAS IN ITS USUAL STAGING AREA AT THE ULAN-UDE FAR EASTERN HIGH COMMAND OF FORCES TVD HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX. THIS IS THE FIRST CONFIRMATION ON IMAGERY OF A COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY ORGANIC TO THIS TBCP. (SWN)
2. REMARKS: THE RAIL CAR WITH THE PROBABLE MAST ANTENNA WAS THE FIFTH CAR FROM THE FRONT (EAST END) OF THE TRAIN AND ADJACENT TO A GUARD TOWER. THE ANTENNA [REDACTED] AND APPEARED TO BE CENTRALLY-MOUNTED ON THE ROOF OF THE COMMUNICATIONS RAIL CAR. THE ANTENNA WAS CONNECTED TO THE RAIL CAR BY A MOUNTING WHICH [REDACTED] IT COULD NOT BE DETERMINED IF THE ANTENNA WAS RETRACTABLE OR MANUALLY MOUNTED IN POSITION. AN ELECTRICAL RAIL LINE MOUNTING WHICH WAS FOLDED IN THE SECURE MODE WAS BEHIND THE ANTENNA. (SWN)

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A CABLE WAS CONNECTED FROM THE WEST END OF THE COMMUNICATIONS RAIL CAR TO A JUNCTION BOX WHICH WAS OUTSIDE THE REVETMENT HOUSING THE TRAIN. THE JUNCTION BOX IS PROBABLY A PERMANENT PLUG-IN SUPPLY POINT FOR ELECTRICAL POWER AND/OR LOCAL COMMUNICATIONS. (SWN)

THE SECOND RAIL CAR FROM THE REAR OF THE TBCP (NOT ON GRAPHIC) HAD A ROOF PATTERN SIMILAR TO THE CAR WITH THE ANTENNA. HOWEVER, NO ANTENNA WAS VISIBLE ON THIS SECOND RAIL CAR AND SNOW COVER INDICATED A LACK OF ACTIVITY WITHIN THE RAIL CAR. (SWN)

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Attachment to

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10 JANUARY 1985

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ANALYSTS' COMMENTS - THE IDENTIFICATION OF A MAST ANTENNA ON THE TBCP CONFIRMS A COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY ORGANIC TO THE TBCP. PREVIOUSLY, A WOODBINE SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS VEHICLE HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED WITH THE TRAIN (SEE NPIC EVENING HIGHLIGHT 9743, ITEM 2, 1 OCTOBER 1984). HOWEVER, IT WAS ONLY OBSERVED ONCE AND ITS ASSOCIATION WITH THE TBCP IS UNCLEAR. SINCE THE MAST HAS NOT BEEN SEEN PRIOR TO 31 DECEMBER, IT CAN BE ASSESSED THAT THE MAST IS PROBABLY NOT PERMANENTLY MOUNTED ON THE RAIL CAR. CONSIDERING THE HEIGHT OF THE MAST, IT PROBABLY IS UTILIZED ONLY WHEN THE TBCP IS STATIONARY. THE SIMILAR ROOF PATTERN ON THE SECOND RAIL CAR INDICATES A PROBABLE REDUNDANCY IN COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITIES, WHICH THE SOVIETS ATTEMPT TO MAINTAIN. THIS COULD ALSO ENABLE THE TBCP TO FUNCTION AS TWO SEPARATE ENTITIES, IF REQUIRED. THE IDENTIFICATION OF THIS ANTENNA IN THE OPERATIONAL POSITION MAY BE AN INDICATION THAT THE ANNUAL GENERAL STAFF WINTER EXERCISE IN THE FAR EASTERN THEATER WILL BE COMMENCING IN THE NEAR FUTURE. (SWN)

3. COORDINATES 51-50-50N 107-53-40E (S)

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